

Supporting graduate students to pursue use-inspired research

Climate & Societies Fellows Program



the problem



an obstacle



our
idea

the problem



We tend to train *all*
graduate students as if
life on the tenure track
is their optimal
outcome even
though...

...the job
market
for PhDs
blows
and...



The Atlantic

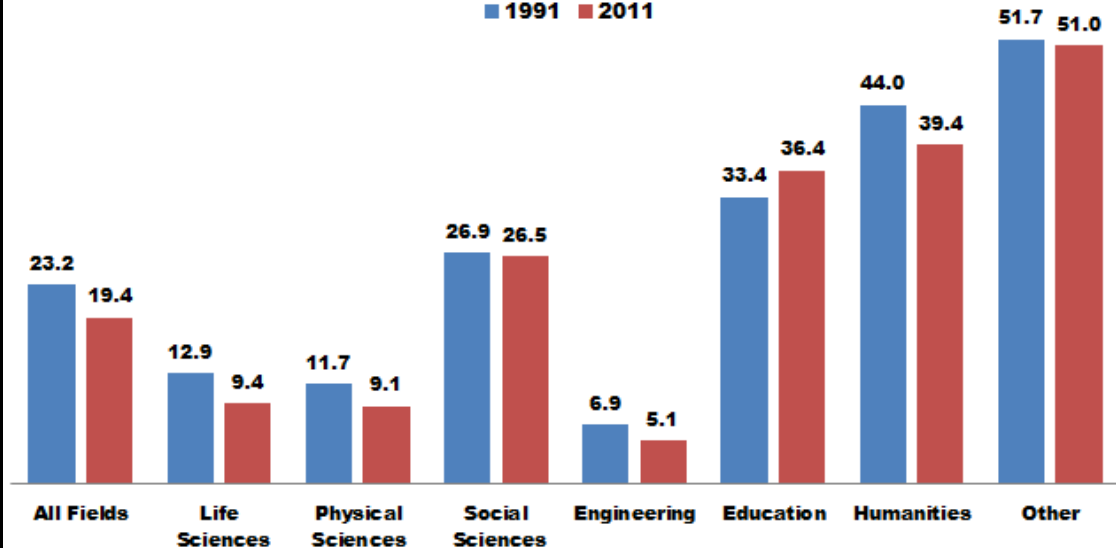
How Many Ph.D.'s Actually Get to Become College Professors?

JORDAN WEISSMANN | FEB 23 2013, 9:00 AM ET

What Percentage of Ph.D.'s Find Academic Jobs by Graduation?

(NSF, Author's Calculations)

■ 1991 ■ 2011



www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2013/02/how-many-phds-actually-get-to-become-college-professors/273434/

...many of our students don't
want a tenure
track life

NGO
26%

Planning
17%

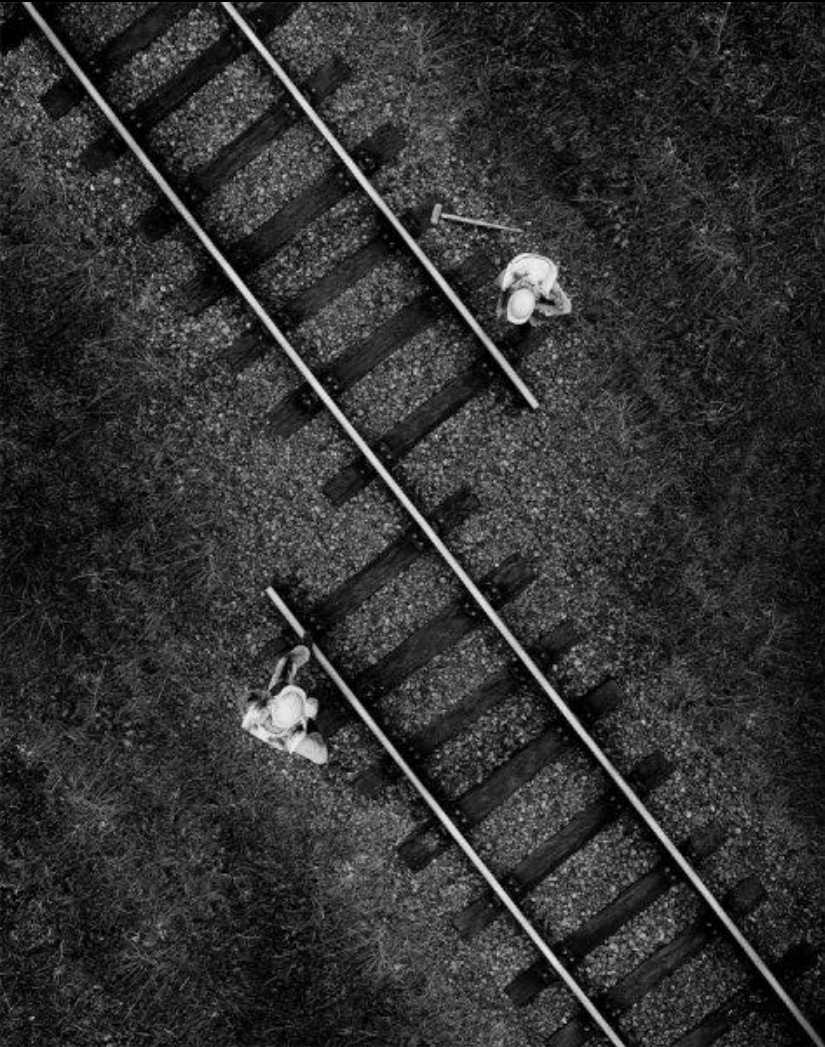
Tenure track
11%

Research
outside
academia
24%

Resource
management
22%

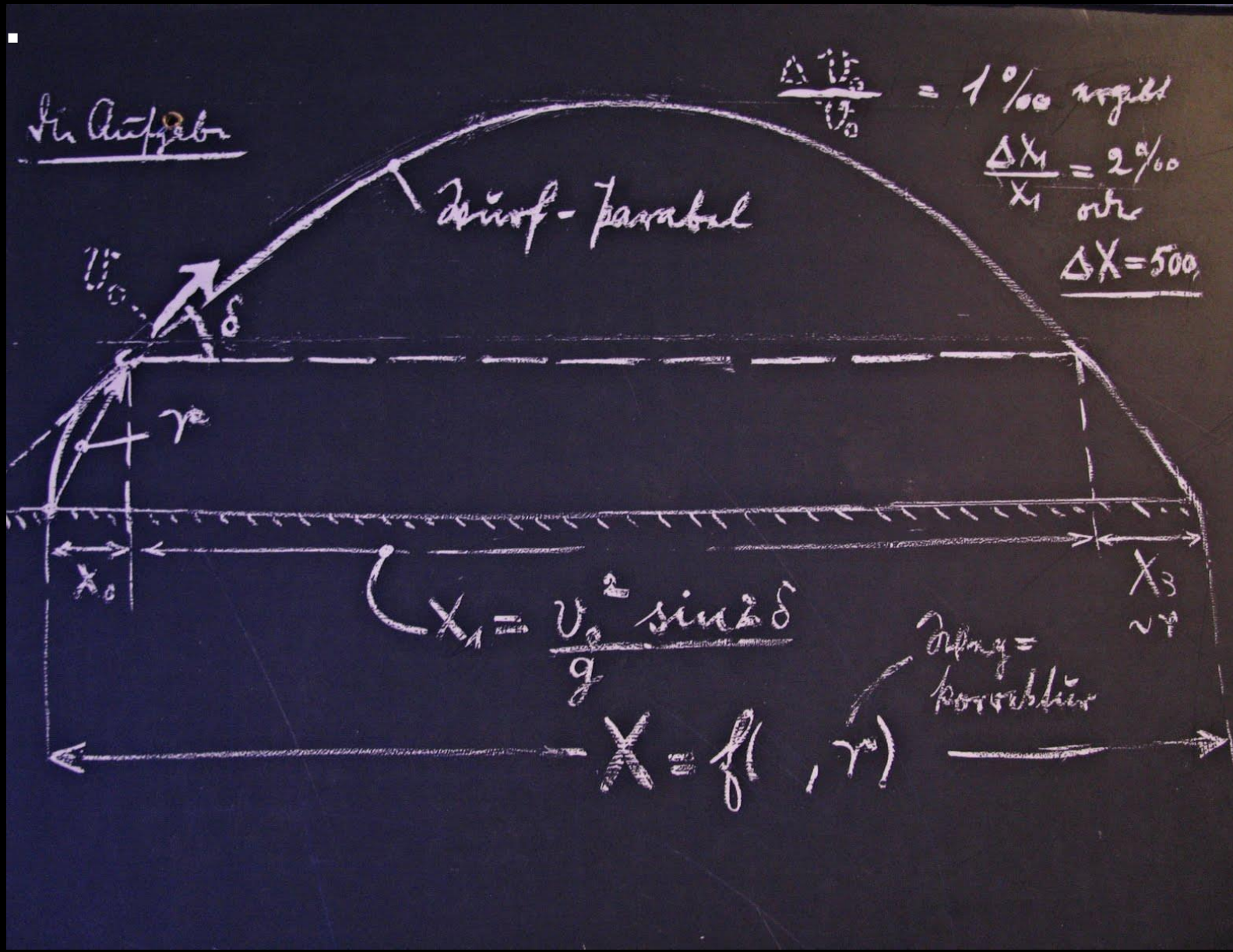
Long-term
career objectives of
28 grad students from
CESD seminar (could select all that apply)

So, one big problem:



our training
may not always
align with
societal or grad
student needs

Solving this isn't rocket science,
but...




...there are
obstacles



We need disciplinary experts,
which means focused training
and depth...

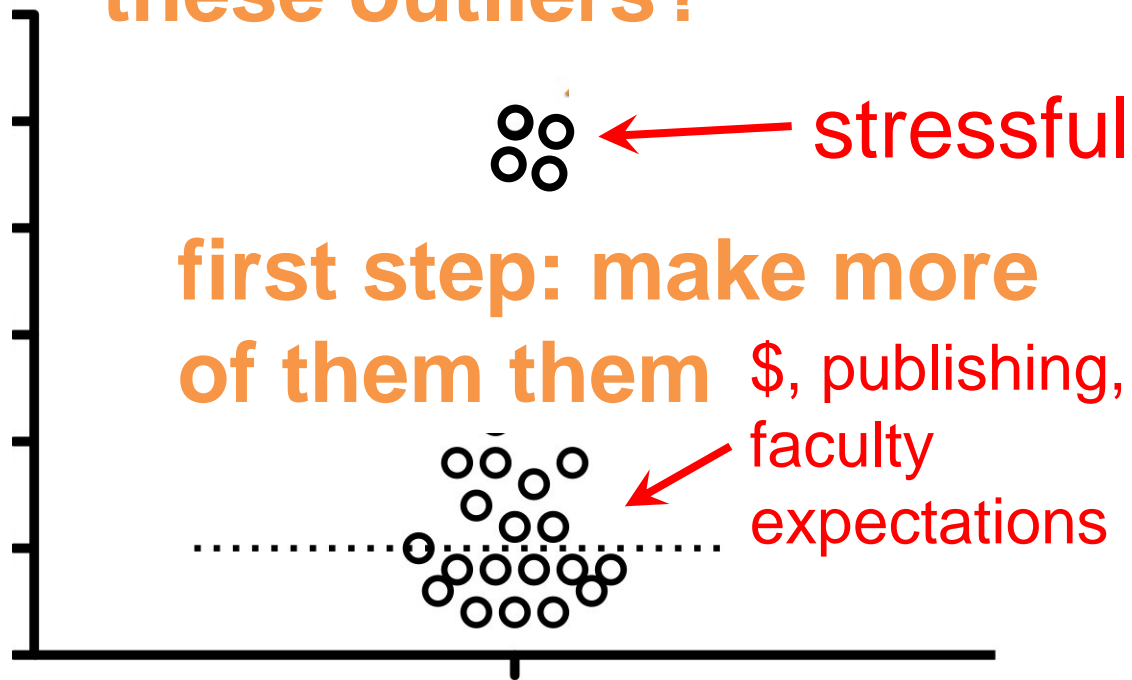
...but to bring knowledge into
the real world to solve problems
requires different skills and
experiences that **may not fit a
typical grad student trajectory**

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME ANTHROPOLOGY DEPARTMENT IDEALIZED GRADUATE TRAJECTORY

	Year one			Year two			Year three			Year five	
	Fall	Spring		Fall	Spring		Fall	Spring		Fall	Spring
Course work	Ling-Anth foundation	Anth-Arch foundation	methods, field skills, langs)	Research Design	Elect.	ings, study for (student)	Generally limited language			Dissertation and writing	
	Soc-Cult foundation	Bio-Anth foundation		Elect.	Elect.						
	Elect.	Elect.		Elect.	Elect.						
Academic stages	Presentation at ND Anthro. Conf. (May)			Attending		Summer: disse				Candidate in class (spring)	
	At conf.									Presenting paper at national conference (Fall and/or spring)	
							Presenting as TA in sub-field (Fall and/or spring)			Application for post-doctoral and other employment	
						Summer: disse	Presenting poster/ paper / PPT at national conf. (Fall and/or spring)			Submission of Dissertation (May)	
1 st year gate			2 nd year gate			3 rd year gate					
Terminal M.A.  Continue to Ph.D. dissertation											

use-inspired research often doesn't fit into this kind of trajectory

So how can we support these outliers?



being an outlier in grad school
can be problematic





our
idea

Provide (seed) support for
cohorts of student-directed,
societally-engaged
projects





Climate & Society Graduate Fellows

- * 4/year @ \$5000/fellow
- * *Some* deliverable in 1 yr
- * “Use-inspired” research or outreach
- * Climate-related
- * Any degree-seeking UA student



Climate & Society Graduate Fellows

* 4/year @ \$5000/fellow

* Some deliverables

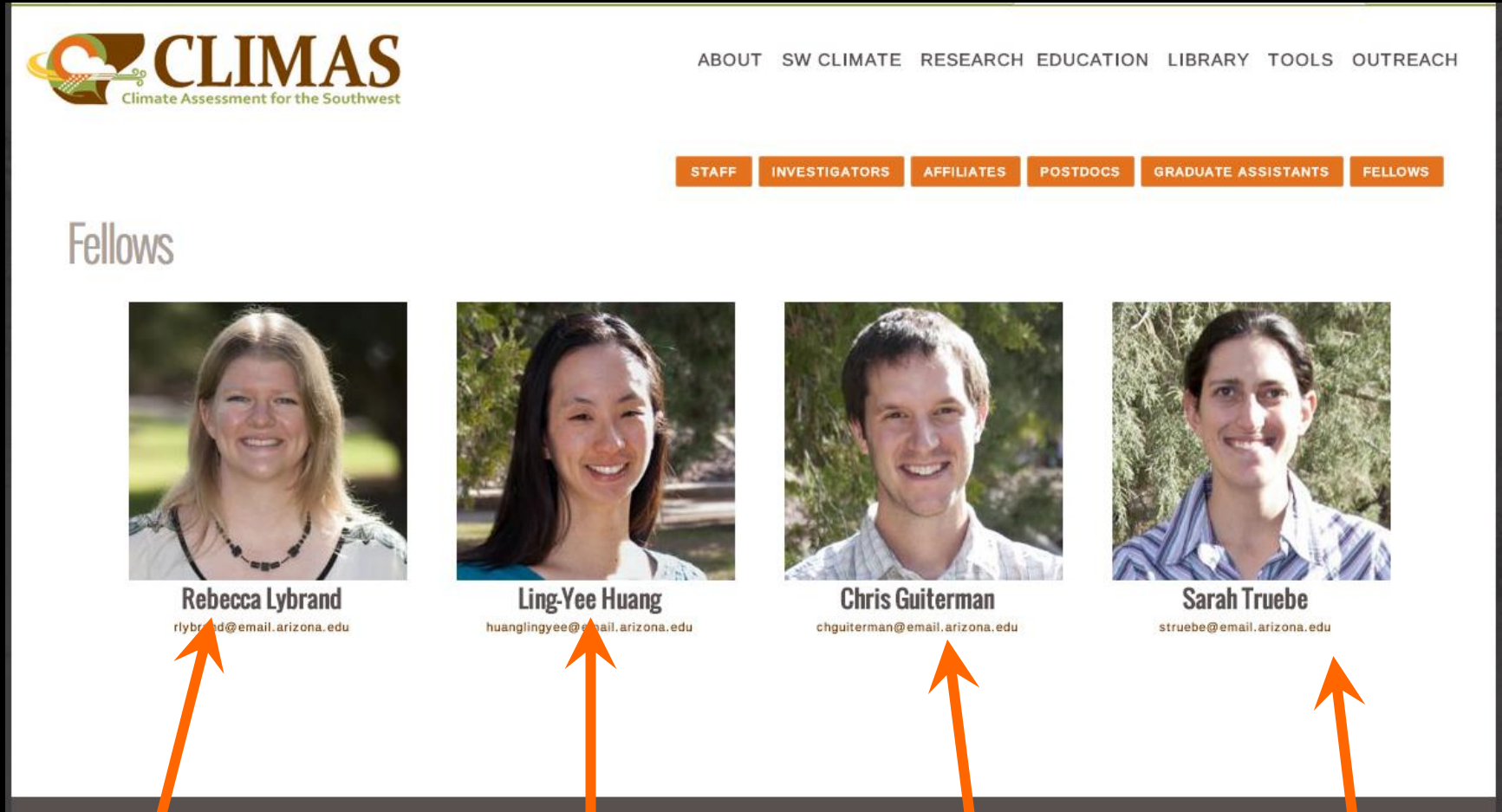
* "Use-in"

or outreach

**** Not RISA funds****

* Any degree-seeking UA student

Inaugural cohort of C&S Fellows (2014)



Soil scientist

Lawyer and env
policy student

Dendrochronologist

Geoscientist

What are we learning?

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Bigger ideas than I
thought we'd get

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Fellows need
(experienced) guidance

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Direct experience for skill
development *obviously* works

Acknowledgements



Research

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CLIMAS



The whole CLIMAS team
who help us review,
select, and mentor the
fellows each year